

# Homeland Security FACT SHEET

November 21, 2003

## Emergency Response Planning for WMD/Terrorism Incidents — Technical Assistance

### Background

The need for a technical assistance addressing emergency response planning was identified by the Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP) as a result of reviewing the state strategies submitted during the 1999 State Homeland Security Assessment Strategy (SHSAS) process. The Emergency Response Planning for WMD/Terrorism Incidents Technical Assistance (TA) was created to address that need.

This workshop is offered by the National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center (NERRTC), a division of the Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX).

### Purpose

The outcome of the ERP TA is to assist local jurisdictions in developing or updating their Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), or other appropriately named emergency response plan, which includes the basic plan, selected annexes to the basic plan, and the Terrorism Incident Annex (TIA).

### Eligibility

Local jurisdictions request the ERP TA through their respective ODP State Administrative Agency (SAA) Training Coordinator, who contacts the ODP for scheduling.

### Participant Audience

Participants should represent the multiple agencies/departments that have responsibility during an incident requiring the guidance of an EOP.

### Prerequisites

None. The jurisdiction's coordinator for the TA is responsible for ensuring that TA participants represent the agencies/departments that will respond to a Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)/terrorism incident in the community.

### TA Session Length

The TA is designed for two days (16 hours). Approximately six weeks prior to the TA session, the NERRTC staff will conduct a one-day preliminary site assessment visit to the jurisdiction to gather specific response planning information that will be used to tailor the TA to the unique planning needs of the jurisdiction.

### TA Delivery Concept

The delivery model consists of providing TA to an individual jurisdiction working on a single plan, to multiple jurisdictions working on individual plans, or to multiple jurisdictions working on a single interjurisdictional plan. (This is helpful when jurisdictions rely on mutual aid.) The TA facilitation team consists of TEEX/NERRTC instructional staff members who are experienced in emergency management and other emergency response disciplines.

The workshop consists of four modules. Essential EOP concepts are discussed covering a basic plan, three annexes chosen by the jurisdiction, and a TIA. These discussions are followed by working sessions in which participants begin the development/update of a jurisdiction-specific EOP. (Templates are provided to ease the development process.) At the conclusion of the TA session, the jurisdiction will receive a diskette/CD containing all of the templates and jurisdiction-specific revisions made during the working sessions.

### Module Descriptions

#### Module 0: TA Introduction and Orientation

— The history, purpose, and objectives of the TA are presented in Module 0. Other TA components are discussed, including a multimedia scenario dealing with a terrorist incident.

**Module 1: EOP Basic Plan Assessment and Development** — Module 1 covers the importance of developing an EOP. Topics for discussion include the various suggested components that comprise a basic all-hazards EOP, including the necessary attachments. The module consists of a working session where participants use a template to generate jurisdiction-specific content for the basic plan.

**Module 2: EOP Basic Plan Annex Assessment and Development** — Module 2 provides an overview and practical application of various annexes and their relevant components and attachments crucial for a complete and effective EOP. The module consists of a working session where participants use a template to generate jurisdiction-specific content for up to three of the following annexes:

- Warning
- Communications
- Shelter and Mass Care
- Radiological Protection
- Evacuation
- Firefighting
- Law Enforcement
- Health and Medical Services
- Emergency Public Information
- Public Works and Engineering
- Utilities
- Resource Management
- Direction and Control
- Human Services
- Hazard Mitigation
- Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response
- Search and Rescue
- Transportation
- Donations Management
- Legal
- Terrorist Incident Response
- Earthquake
- Flood/Dam Failure
- Hurricane
- Tornado

**Module 3: Terrorism Incident Annex Assessment and Development** — Module 3 guides the jurisdiction's preparation for and response to a WMD/terrorism incident and features discussions on relevant components that the TIA is comprised of, including the necessary attachments. This module consists of a working session where participants use a template to develop jurisdiction-specific content for the TIA.

### **Cost**

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No cost to jurisdictions. The TA is funded by the ODP of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

### **For More Information**

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For more information concerning the Emergency Response Planning for WMD/Terrorism Incidents TA, contact Scott Terry (979.862.8590) or Cindy Wall (979.458.6937).